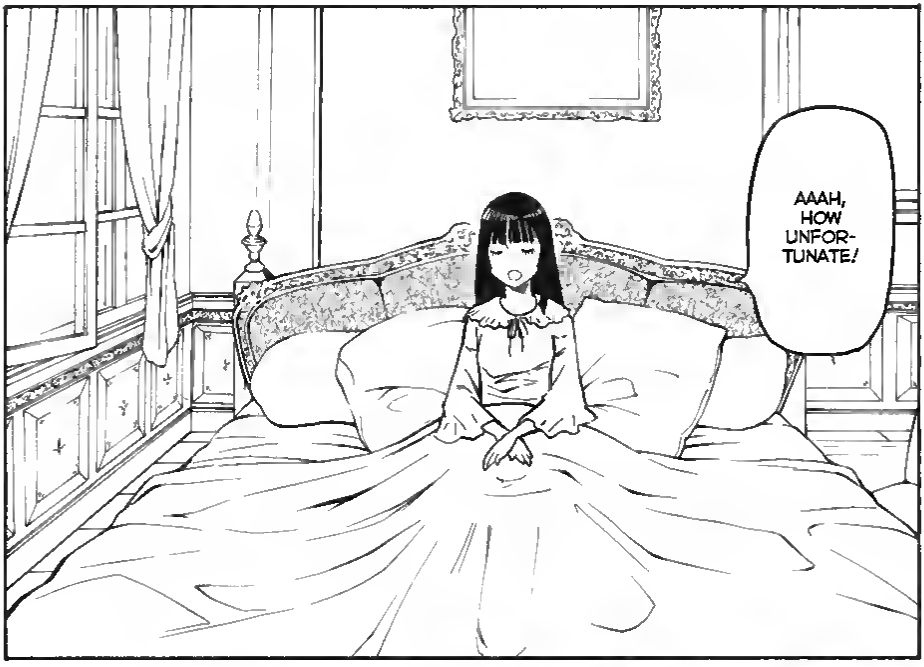
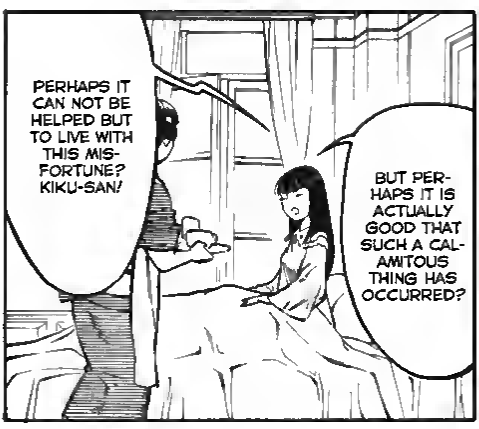
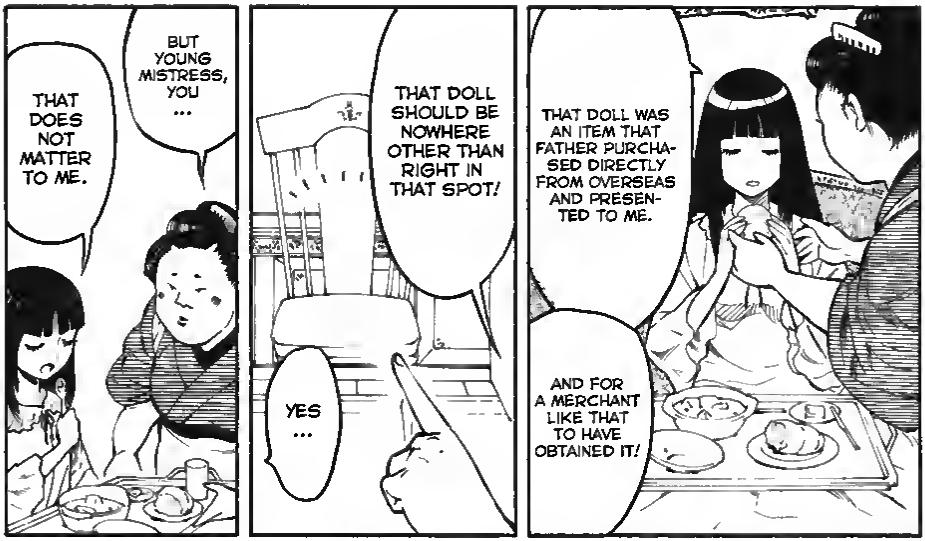
THE DAUGHTER AND THE GARDENER


AAAH, HOW UNFOR-TUNATE!

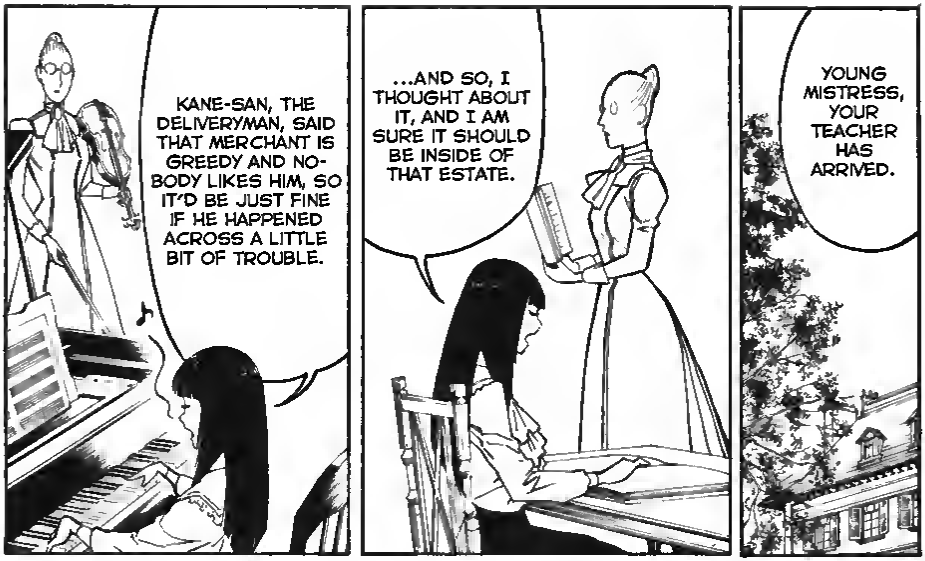

PERHAPS IT CAN NOT BE HELPED BUT TO LIVE WITH THIS MIS-FORTUNE? KIKU-SAN!
BUT PER-HAPS IT IS ACTUALLY GOOD THAT SUCH A CAL-AMITOUS THING HAS OCCURRED?

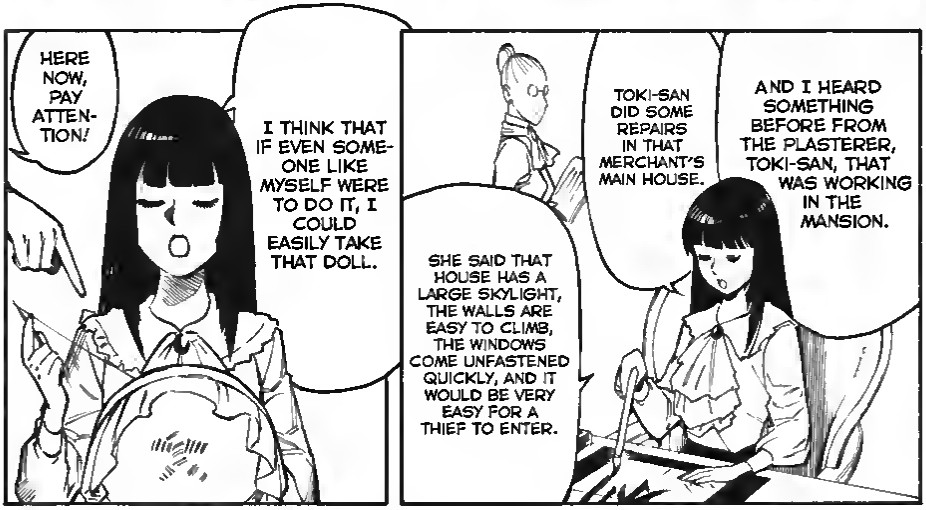
HOW TRULY UNFOR-TUNATE!

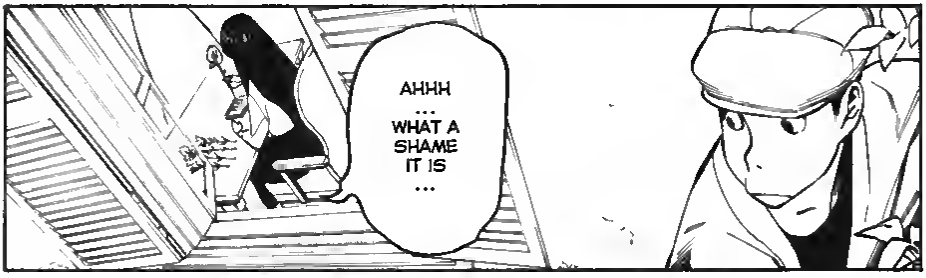
YOUNG MIS-TRESS.
YES ...


BUT YOUNG MISTRESS, YOU ...
THAT DOES NOT MATTER TO ME.
THAT DOLL SHOULD BE NOWHERE OTHER THAN RIGHT IN THAT SPOT!
YES ...
THAT DOLL WAS AN ITEM THAT FATHER PURCHASED DIRECTLY FROM OVERSEAS AND PRESENTED TO ME.
AND FOR A MERCHANT LIKE THAT TO HAVE OBTAINED IT!

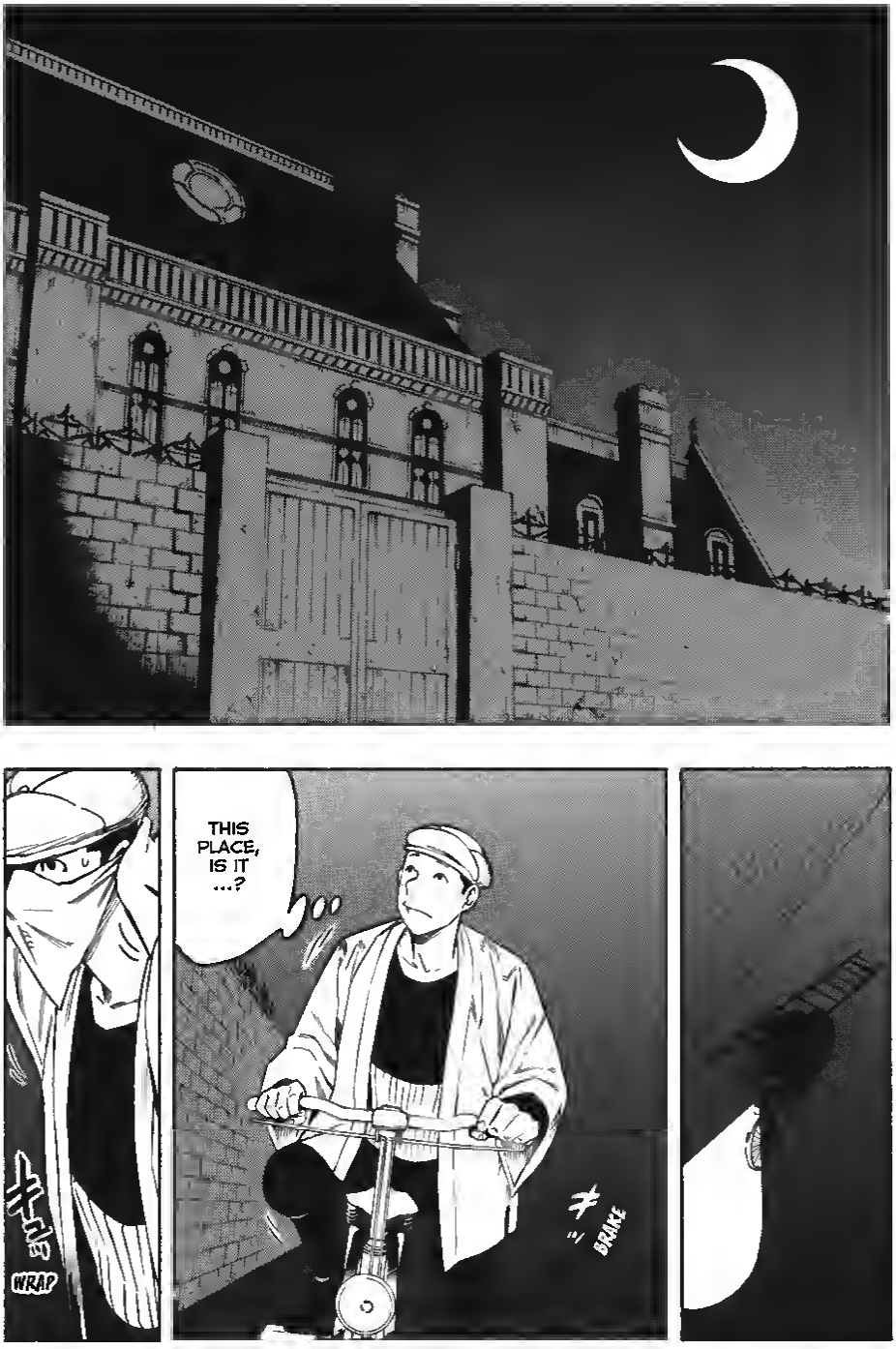
IF I POSSESSED IT, EVEN THOUGH I'M UNABLE TO SEE IT, IT WOULD MAKE ME SO VERY HAPPY...

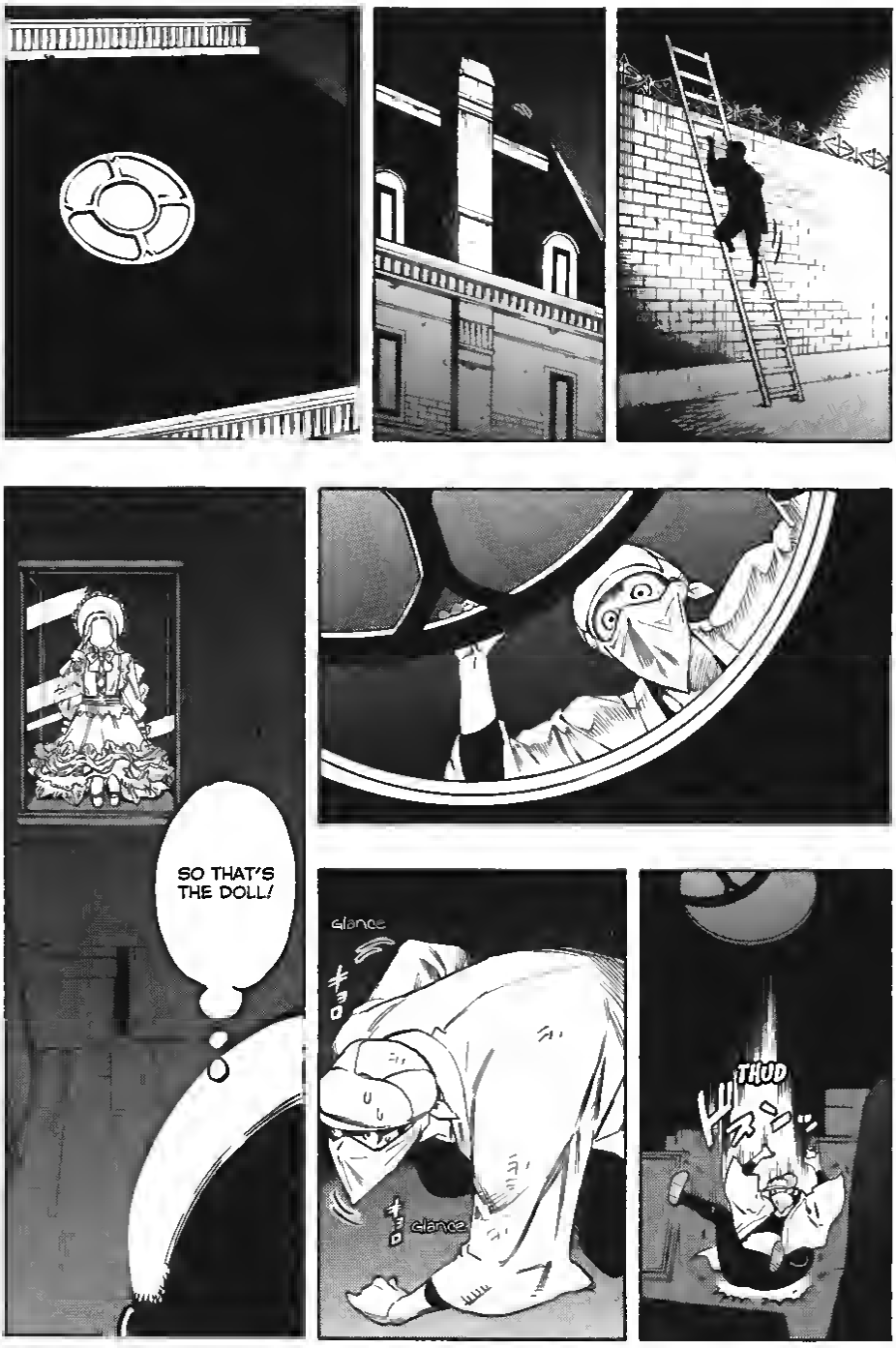

KANE-SAN, THE DELIVERYMAN, SAID THAT MERCHANT IS GREEDY AND NOBODY LIKES HIM, SO IT'D BE JUST FINE IF HE HAPPENED ACROSS A LITTLE BIT OF TROUBLE.
...AND SO, I THOUGHT ABOUT IT, AND I AM SURE IT SHOULD BE INSIDE OF THAT ESTATE.
YOUNG MISTRESS, YOUR TEACHER HAS ARRIVED.


HERE NOW, PAY ATTENTION!
I THINK THAT IF EVEN SOMEONE LIKE MYSELF WERE TO DO IT, I COULD EASILY TAKE THAT DOLL.
TOKI-SAN DID SOME REPAIRS IN THAT MERCHANT'S MAIN HOUSE.
AND I HEARD SOMETHING BEFORE FROM THE PLASTERER, TOKI-SAN, THAT WAS WORKING IN THE MANSION.
SHE SAID THAT HOUSE HAS A LARGE SKYLIGHT, THE WALLS ARE EASY TO CLIMB, THE WINDOWS COME UNFASTENED QUICKLY, AND IT WOULD BE VERY EASY FOR A THIEF TO ENTER.


AHHH ... WHAT A SHAME IT IS ...

WELL, THANKS A BUNCH.
WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SKILLFUL HANDLING OF IT.
THIS TREE WAS A PARTICULAR FAVORITE OF THE MASTER'S.
SADAKICHI, ARE YOU ALL DONE FOR THE DAY?
AH, YEP!
SEE YA. THANKS FOR THE TEA!
FAREWELL, SADAKICHI!
OH, MY, WHAT AM I SAYING?
BUT NOW SHE'S LIKE THAT, YOU SEE? ISN'T IT PITIFUL ...?
Her day-dreaming is pretty intense.
THE YOUNG MISTRESS ONCE WAS LIKE THE MASTER, A LOVER OF GREENERY AND FLOWERS...


THIS PLACE, IS IT ...?
WRAP
BRAKE


SO THAT'S THE DOLL!
glance
glance
THUD

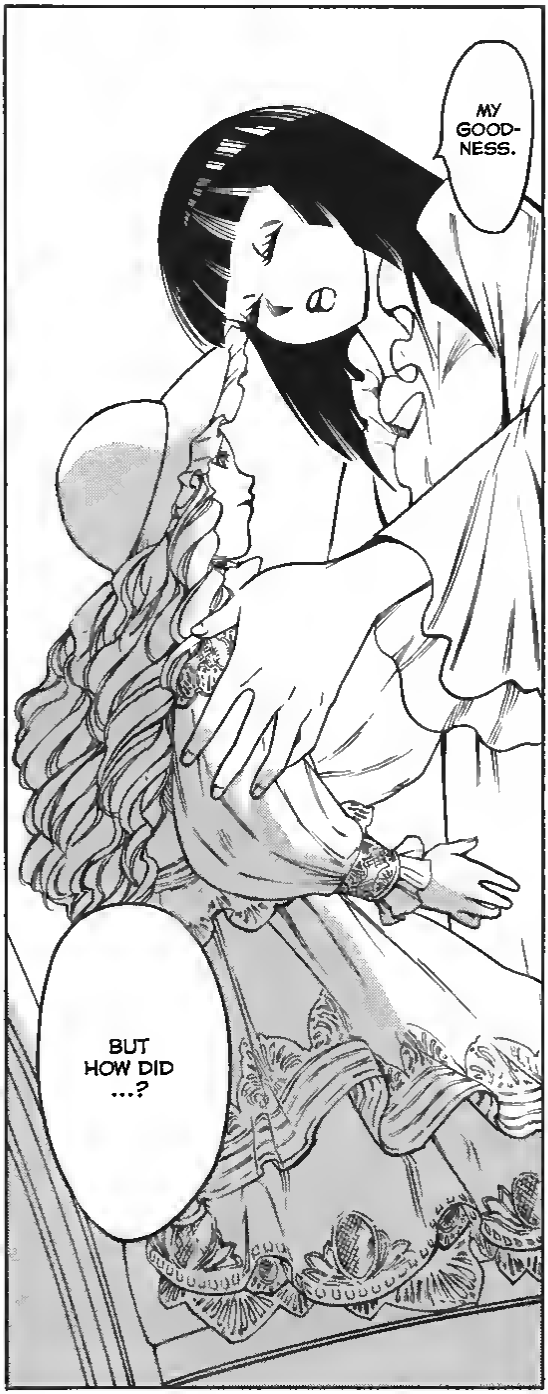
...WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DOLL. IT LOOKS LIKE THE MISTRESS.
OKAY.
HOW THE HELL AM I GONNA GET OUT?!
GAAAAH
.....
NOW I JUST NEED TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET OUT OF HERE...

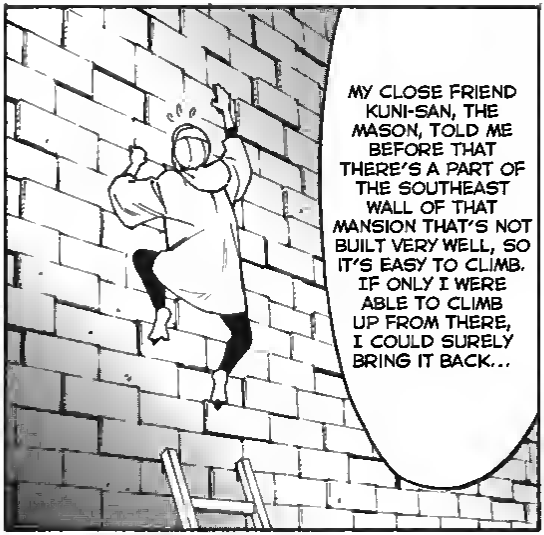
U... UUUGH ...
GWAAGH!!
TUMBLE
THUD
WHAT'S THAT?!
THUD
!!
SLAM
IS SOMEBODY THERE?!
O-OH SHIIIIIT!!

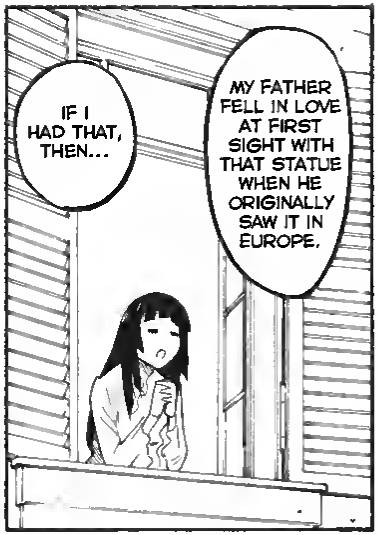
AH?!
HEY! THE MASTER'S DOLL IS ...
WHERE ARE YOU ...

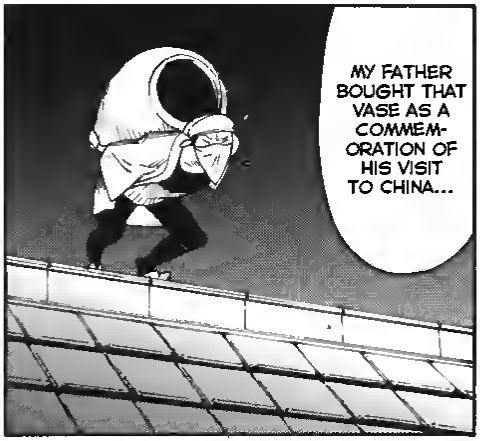
THIS RIGHT HERE.
WHAT IS IT?
OH? YOUNG MISTRESS, WHATEVER COULD THAT BE?

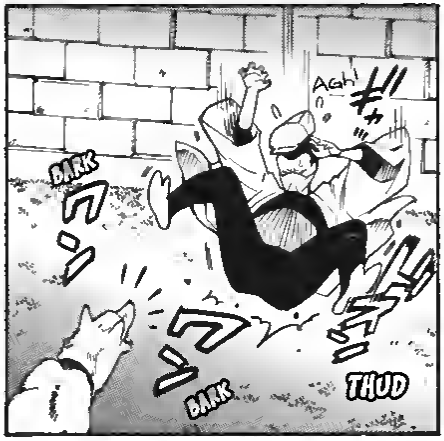
...BUT I'M CERTAIN THAT SOMEONE HEARD AND GRANTED MY REQUEST.
AND THAT PERSON RETURNED IT TO ME! I'M CERTAIN!


MY GOOD-NESS.
BUT HOW DID ...?

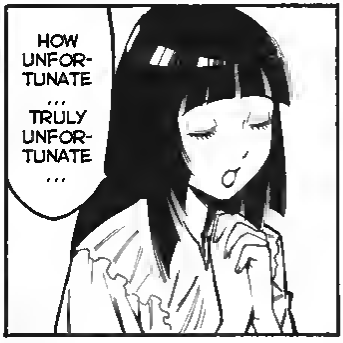

MY CLOSE FRIEND KUNI-SAN, THE MASON, TOLD ME BEFORE THAT THERE'S A PART OF THE SOUTHEAST WALL OF THAT MANSION THAT'S NOT BUILT VERY WELL, SO IT'S EASY TO CLIMB. IF ONLY I WERE ABLE TO CLIMB UP FROM THERE, I COULD SURELY BRING IT BACK...

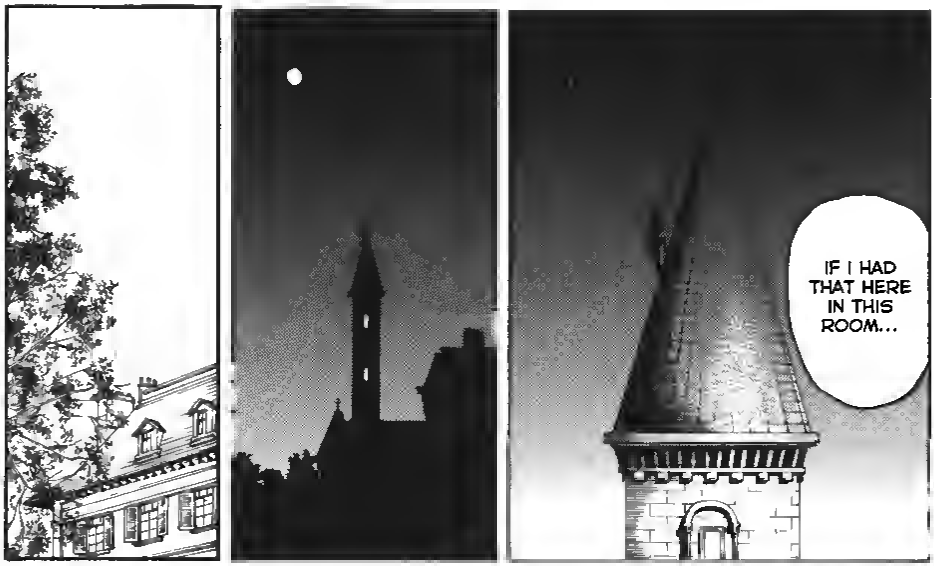

IF I HAD THAT, THEN...
MY FATHER FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH THAT STATUE WHEN HE ORIGINALLY SAW IT IN EUROPE.

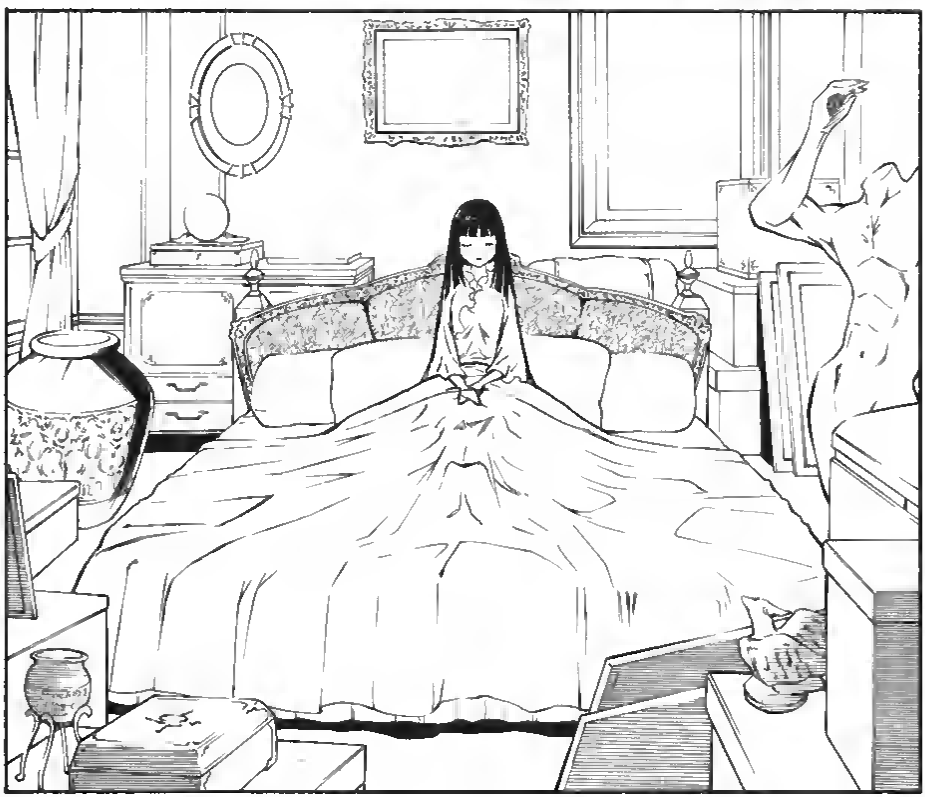

MY FATHER BOUGHT THAT VASE AS A COMMEM-ORATION OF HIS VISIT TO CHINA...

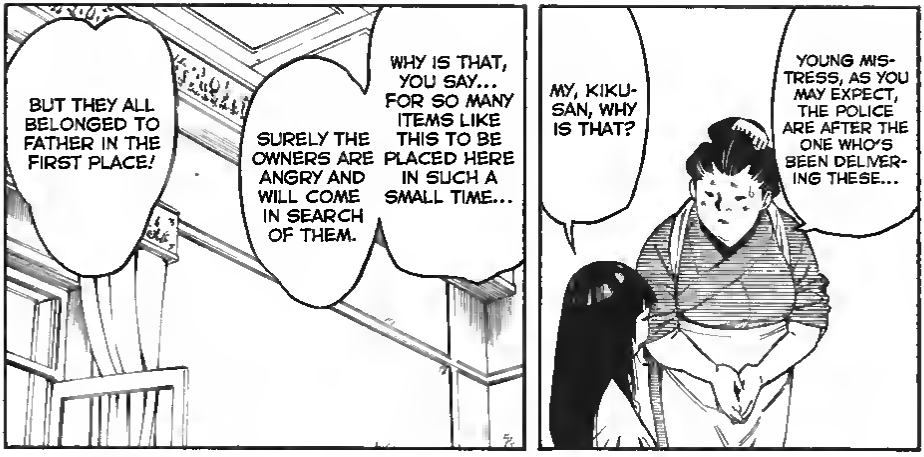

Agh!
BARK
BARK
THUD

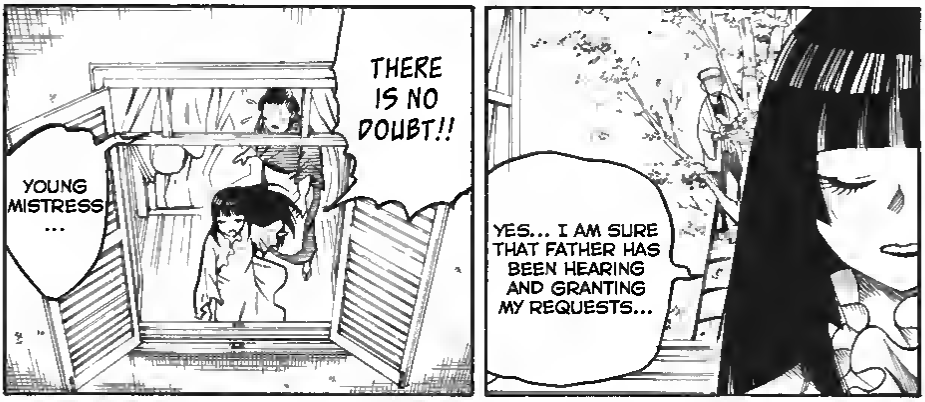
THERE'S A WAY OUT OVER ON THAT SIDE ...
THE STRUC-TURE OF THAT MAN-SION ...

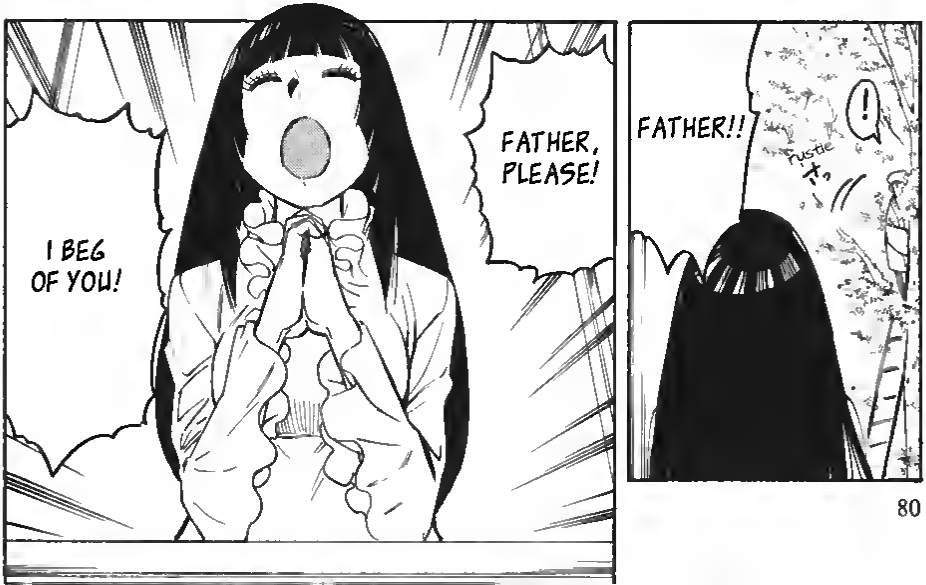

HOW UNFOR-TUNATE ... TRULY UNFOR-TUNATE ...


IF I HAD THAT HERE IN THIS ROOM...




BUT THEY ALL BELONGED TO FATHER IN THE FIRST PLACE!
SURELY THE OWNERS ARE ANGRY AND WILL COME IN SEARCH OF THEM.
WHY IS THAT, YOU SAY... FOR SO MANY ITEMS LIKE THIS TO BE PLACED HERE IN SUCH A SMALL TIME...
MY, KIKU-SAN, WHY IS THAT?
YOUNG MISTRESS, AS YOU MAY EXPECT, THE POLICE ARE AFTER THE ONE WHO'S BEEN DELIVER-ING THESE...


THERE IS NO DOUBT!!
YOUNG MISTRESS ...
YES... I AM SURE THAT FATHER HAS BEEN HEARING AND GRANTING MY REQUESTS...

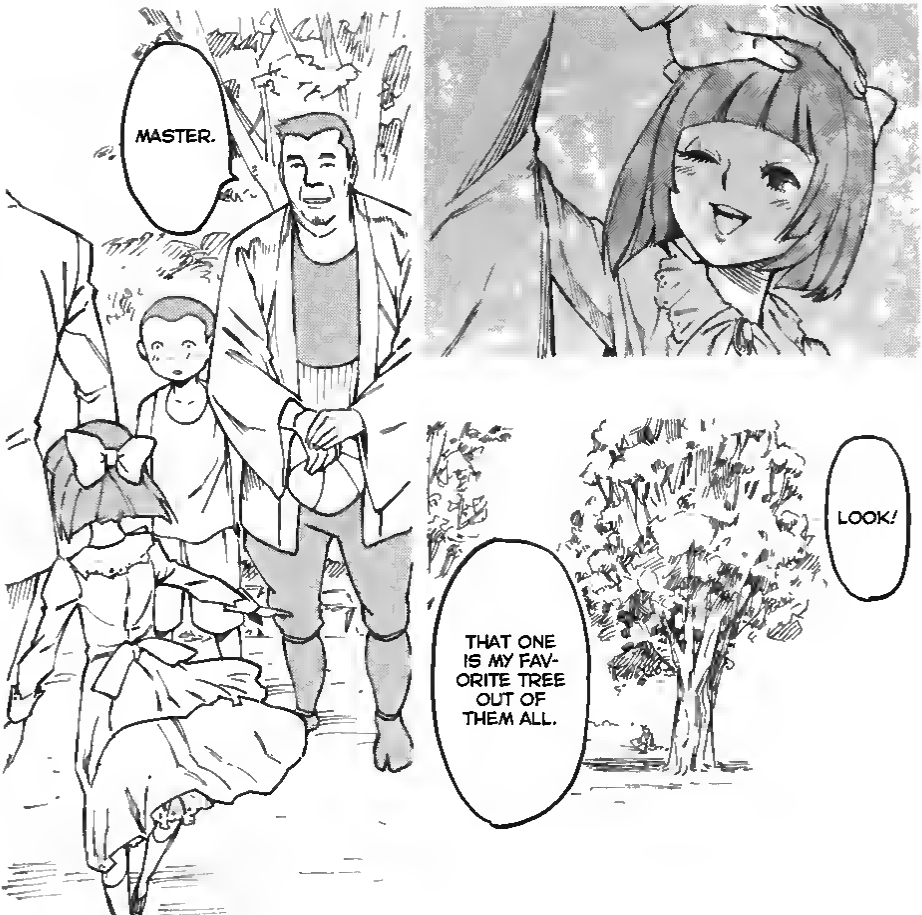

I BEG OF YOU!
FATHER, PLEASE!
FATHER!!
!
RUSTLE

IF YOU BRING BACK THAT PAINTING THAT YOU LOVED...
NO, YOU WILL BRING IT BACK! BECAUSE YOU BROUGHT BACK ALL OF THESE OTHER THINGS...
THAT PRECIOUS ... MEMORABLE PAINTING ...
TO MY SORROW, IT WAS TAKEN BY THE BANK AND IS NOW DECORATING THEIR RECEPTION HALL.
stare
.....
MENU
CERTAINLY YOU ARE ABLE TO BRING IT BACK.
BECAUSE THIS IS SOMETHING I HEARD FROM THE TAILOR, MISS YUKI-SAN...

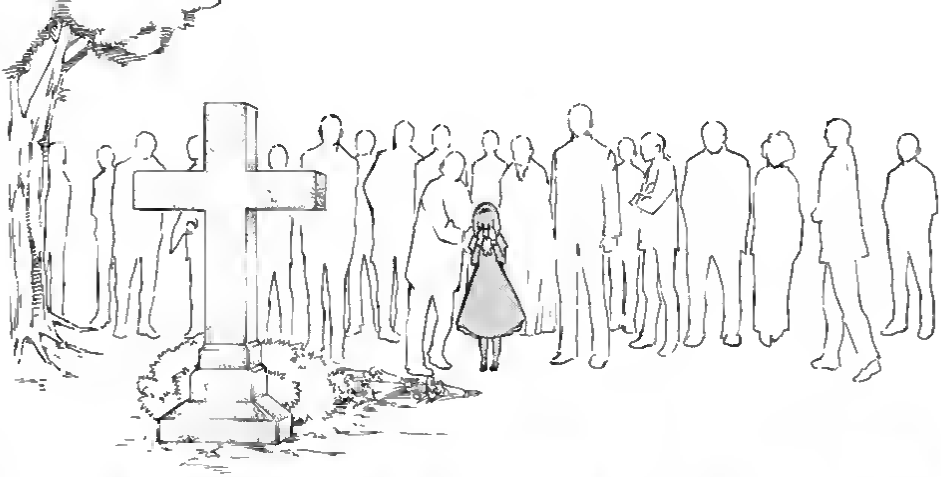
YOUNG MISTRESS.
IF YOU CONTINUE TO LEAVE THE WINDOW OPEN IN EXCESS, IT WILL BE HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH.
shut
!!
drop
.....

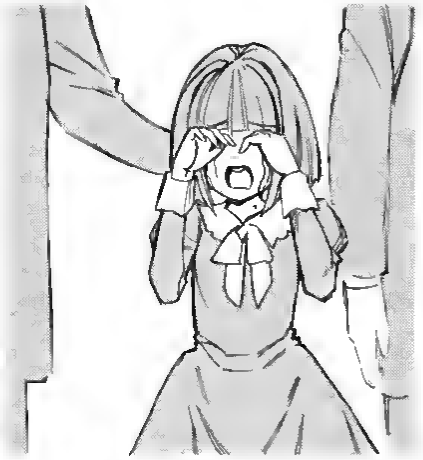
YOUNG MISTRESS ...
I WONDER WHY I'M DOING THIS...
pedal
pedal
A SIMPLE GARDENER LIKE ME DOING SOMETHING CRAZY LIKE THIS
BUT ...
AM I WANTING TO COMPLETELY RUIN HER OR SOMETHING BY GOING ALONG WITH WHAT'S JUST A PRACTICAL JOKE TO HER?
IS CONTINUING TO COMMIT THESE CRIMES REALLY BENEFICIAL FOR THE YOUNG MISTRESS...?

FATHER!

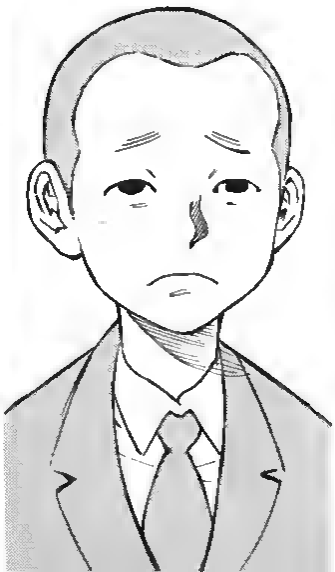

MASTER.
LOOK!
THAT ONE IS MY FAV-ORITE TREE OUT OF THEM ALL.

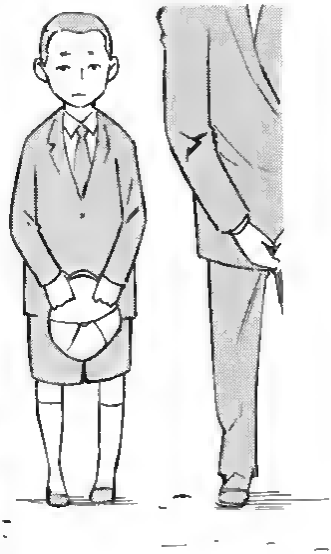
HEY, FATHER
...

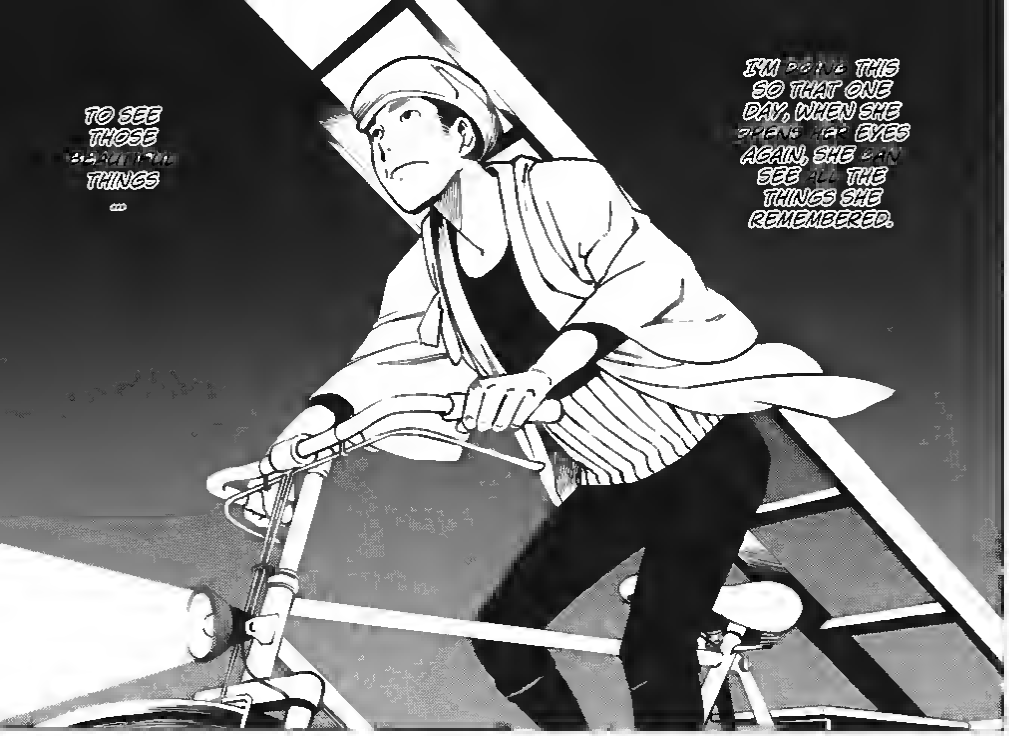




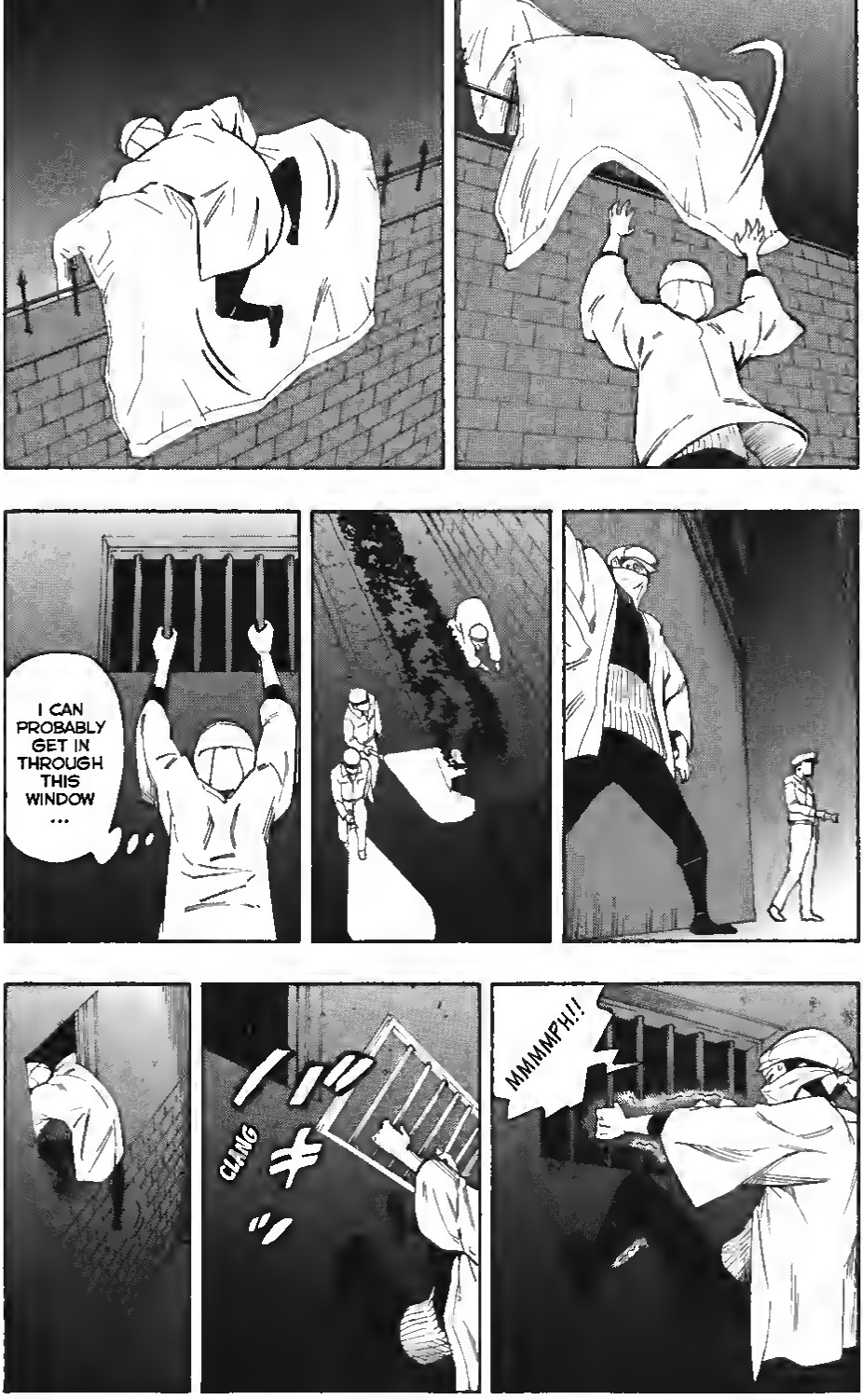
WHY DID THE YOUNG MISTRESS BECOME UNABLE TO SEE ANYTHING?






TO SEE THOSE [illegible] THINGS ...
I'M DOING THIS SO THAT ONE DAY, WHEN SHE OPENS HER EYES AGAIN, SHE CAN SEE ALL THE THINGS SHE REMEMBERED.

AND THAT BIG TREE AND THE GARDEN, TOO...


I CAN PROBABLY GET IN THROUGH THIS WINDOW ...
CLANG
MMMMPH!!!

HM?! WHO'S THERE?!!
!
UGH!
SHIT!!
THWACK

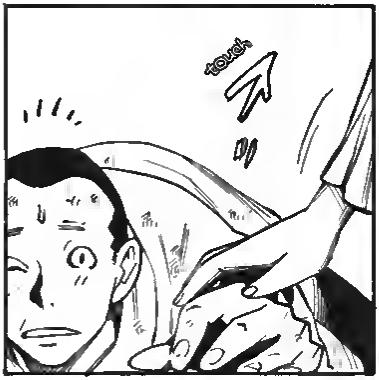
S... STOP!
THIEF!!
WHISTLE

BLAM

SPLASH!
YOUNG
...
MISTRESS
...

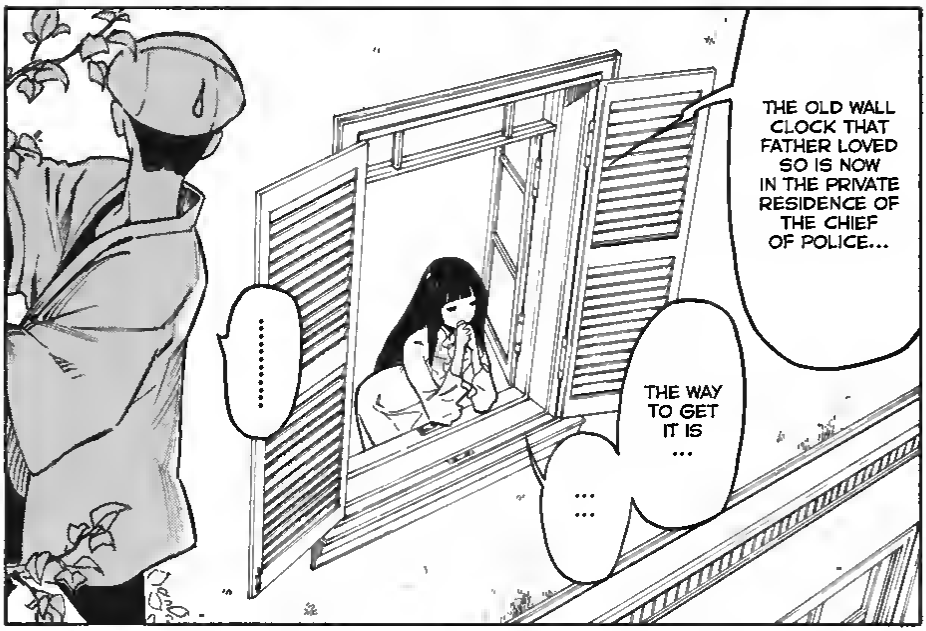
KNOCK KNOCK
!
SIGH ...
チュン
chirp
チュン
chirp
WHAT HAVE YOU ...
FLOP
KA-CLUNK
IS THAT THE USUAL PERSON?

THIS TIME ...I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET IT...
AND SO, I'VE GOT NOTHING ...
Y ...
YOUNG MIS-TRESS ...
YOU'RE ...


touch

I CAN ... SMELL THE TREE.
IT SMELLS JUST LIKE THAT BIG TREE THAT WAS THE FAVORITE OF FATHER'S ...
Blush
LET ME STAY LIKE THIS A WHILE LONGER ...
PLEASE.

AHHH, HOW UNFOR-TUNATE!!
HOW TRULY UNFORTUNATE!!


THE OLD WALL CLOCK THAT FATHER LOVED SO IS NOW IN THE PRIVATE RESIDENCE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE...
THE WAY TO GET IT IS ...
... ...
.....

Eeek!

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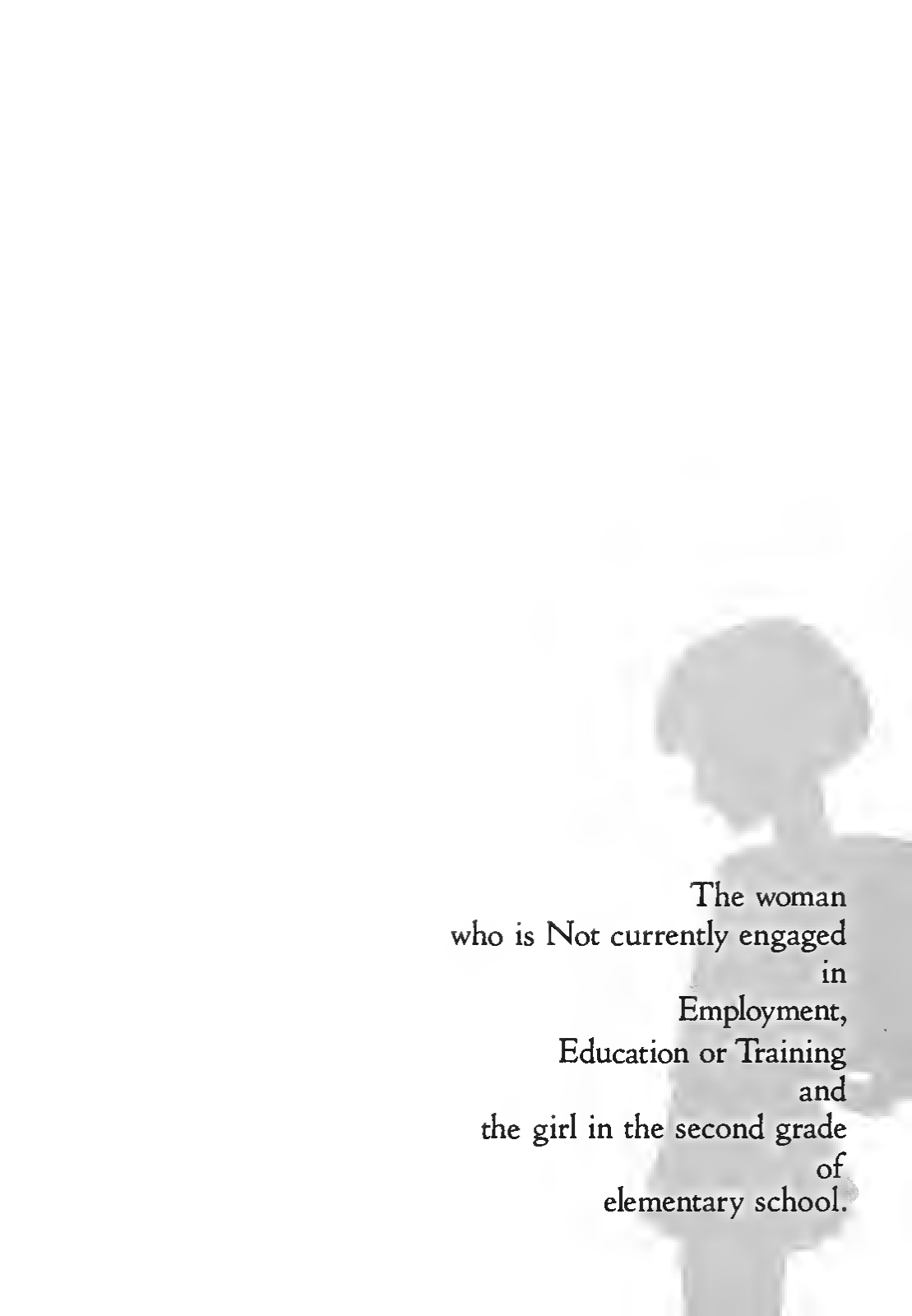
NEET Onna to Shougaku Ninensei


The woman
who is Not currently engaged
in
Employment,
Education or Training
and
the girl in the second grade
of
elementary school.